

Serial No. 10/533,911

Attorney Docket No. 49-001-TN

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NOV 13 2006**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Previously presented) A shrinking device for shrinking a tool into a tool holder of a tool chuck, the shrinking device comprising:

a heating device for heating the tool holder; and

a gas suction device for evacuating gases escaping from the tool holder.

2. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a gas-conducting unit for conducting gas from a holder opening of the tool holder to a gas inlet opening of the gas suction device.

3. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a gas-conducting unit which encompasses a negative pressure region, the gas-conducting unit being provided for maintaining a negative pressure in the negative pressure region relative to an external region of the gas-conducting unit and a pressure drop from a holder opening of the tool holder to the negative pressure region.

4. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the heating device annularly encompasses the tool holder and the gas-conducting unit is designed as a hood on the heating device.

5. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the heating device forms part of the gas-conducting unit.

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6. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the heating device has gas ducts which are provided for gas to flow through during the operation of the gas suction device.

7. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the gas ducts are connected to the negative pressure region by a gas line.

8. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the gas ducts open into the negative pressure region.

9. (Currently amended) The shrinking device ~~shrinking device~~ as claimed in claim 2, wherein the tool chuck has an upper end surface arranged at one end of the tool holder and the gas-conducting unit completely surrounds the tool holder above the end surface.

10. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a shielding element for resting on an upper end surface arranged at one end of the tool holder, the shielding element having a gas-conducting duct for conducting gas out of the holder opening.

11. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the shielding element is provided for shielding a tool, which is inserted into the tool holder, from a magnetic field generated by the heating device.

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12. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the shielding element is provided as a stop element for positioning the heating device.

13. (Previously presented) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the shielding element upwardly closes off the holder opening in such a manner that gases rising out of the holder opening can only leave the holder opening upward through at least one gas-conducting duct in the shielding element.

14. (Previously presented) A method for shrinking a tool into a tool holder of a tool chuck, the method comprising: heating the tool holder by a heating device; and evacuating gases from the tool holder with the aid of a gas suction device.

15. (New) A shrinking device for shrinking a tool into a tool holder of a tool chuck, having a tool chuck holder for holding the tool chuck, a heating device for heating the tool holder, and a measuring device for measuring the tool, characterized by a gas suction device for evacuating gases escaping from the tool holder.

16. (New) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gas suction device includes a fan unit.

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17. (New) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shrinking device includes a cleaning device for cleaning the gases.

18. (New) The shrinking device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the heating device serves as a support for the gas-conducting unit.